

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/029,664

Examiner

Paul Huber

Applicant(s)

YONEYAMA ET AL.

Art Unit

2653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment and remarks filed August 23, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 9-17, 21 and 22 (renumbered as claims 1-15, respectively).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

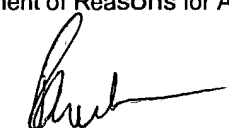
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 03142002; 06062003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


PAUL W. HUBER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Inoue discloses a reproducing apparatus including file management information.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record considered as a whole fails to teach or suggest, either:

1) In an information recording apparatus for recording first information for subsequent playback by a playback apparatus, a method for recording comprising: receiving the first information; recording the first information to a user area on a recording medium; generating second information, the second information not intended for playback by the playback apparatus, the second information comprising playback enabling information and additional information, **the playback enabling information being the minimum required information to enable the playback apparatus to playback the first information from the recording medium; and recording the second information on the recording medium; the recording second information including a first recording mode comprising recording the playback enabling information and recording the additional information on the recording medium, the recording second information including a second recording mode comprising recording the playback enabling information on the recording medium exclusive of the additional information; or**

2) Apparatus for recording information on a recording medium comprising: a write head operable to record information onto an area of the recording medium; a first controller portion operative with the write head and configured to operate the write head to record first information to a user area of the recording medium; a second controller portion operative with the write head and configured to operate the write head to record second information to an area of the recording medium other than the user area; a third controller portion operative with the write head and configured to operate the write head to record third information in a boundary zone; and **a fourth controller portion operative with the second and third controller portions and configured to select between a first operation of activating the second controller portion exclusive of the third controller portion and a second operation of activating both the second controller portion and the third controller portion, the second information representative of minimum essential information that enables a playback apparatus to play back the first information, wherein when the fourth controller portion selects the first operation, the recording medium has contained thereon the second information exclusive of the third information and is able to be played back on the playback device; or**

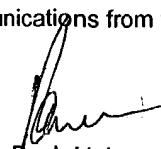
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3) An information recording apparatus comprising: a driver for recording information to a recording medium; a control circuit coupled to the driver to record user-provided information to the recording medium; and a finalizing circuit coupled to the driver to record finalizing information to the recording medium, **the finalizing circuit configured to produce first finalizing information representative of minimum essential information to enable a playback apparatus to play back the user-provided information from the recording medium, the finalizing circuit further configured to produce second finalizing information suitable for being written to a boundary zone of the recording medium, the finalizing circuit operable to write the first finalizing information on the recording medium without writing the second finalizing information on the recording medium so that the recording medium can be played back in the playback device having only the first information contained thereon; or**

4) An information-recording apparatus for recording information on a recording medium from which a playback apparatus can reproduce the information recorded thereon comprising: means for recording information on the information-recording medium; means for executing a record-on-medium ending process by which the information-recording medium is processed so as to be replayable by the playback apparatus; and means for controlling the information-recording apparatus, **the means for executing the record-on-medium ending process comprising: first means for writing minimal information required for the playback apparatus when performing playback processing on the information-recording medium; and second means for writing additional information, the means for executing the record-on-medium ending process being operable to execute the first means exclusively of the second means, wherein only the minimal information is written on the information-recording medium.** (bold language emphasized)

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Huber whose telephone number is 703-308-1549.


Paul Huber
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2653

pwh
November 23, 2004